

(1) The United States is the world's largest market for pharmaceuticals, yet consumers still pay the world's highest prices.

(2) In 2000, Congress took action to legalize the importation of prescription drugs from other countries by United States wholesalers and pharmacists, and before such a program can go into effect, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) must certify that the program would have no adverse impact on safety and that it would reduce costs for American consumers.

(3) Since 2000, no Secretary of HHS has made the certification required to permit the implementation of a program for importation of prescription drugs.

(4) In July 2006, the Senate approved by a vote of 68-32 an amendment to the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2007, that prohibits Customs and Border Protection from preventing individuals not in the business of importing prescription drugs from carrying them across the border with Canada.

(5) In July 2007, the Senate adopted language similar to the 2007 amendment in the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2008.

(6) In October 2007, the Senate adopted language in the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008, that prohibits anti-reimportation activities within HHS.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the leadership of the Senate should bring to the floor for full debate in 2008 comprehensive legislation that legalizes the importation of prescription drugs from highly industrialized countries with safe pharmaceutical infrastructures and creates a regulatory pathway to ensure that such drugs are safe;

(2) such legislation should be given an up or down vote on the floor of the Senate; and

(3) previous Senate approval of 3 amendments in support of prescription drug importation shows the Senate's strong support for passage of comprehensive importation legislation.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 3221

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 2:15 p.m., Tuesday, April 1, the Senate proceed to the motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the motion to proceed to H.R. 3221; that the motion to reconsider be agreed to; further, that the time until 2:30 p.m. be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders with the majority leader controlling the final 7½ minutes; that at 2:30 p.m., without further intervening action or debate, the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to H.R. 3221.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 1974

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order of December 19, 2007, with respect to S. 1974, be vitiated and that S. 1974 remain at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MAKING MAJORITY PARTY APPOINTMENTS FOR THE 110TH CONGRESS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I send a resolution to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 492) amending majority party membership on the Select Committee on Ethics for the remainder of the 110th Congress.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, and that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table without intervening action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 492) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 492

Resolved, That Senate Resolution 27 (110th Congress) is amended, effective January 1, 2008, by striking all from "ETHICS:" through "72a-1f" and inserting "ETHICS: Mrs. Boxer (Chairman), Mr. Pryor, and Mr. Salazar".

WORLD WATER DAY

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 478, and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 478) supporting the goals and ideals of "World Water Day."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 478) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 478

Whereas the United Nations General Assembly, via resolution, has designated March 22 of each year as World Water Day;

Whereas a person needs 4 to 5 liters of water per day to survive;

Whereas a person can live weeks without food, but only days without water;

Whereas every 15 seconds a child dies from a water-borne disease;

Whereas, for children under age 5, water-borne diseases are the leading cause of death;

Whereas millions of women and children spend several hours a day collecting water from distant, often polluted sources;

Whereas every dollar spent on water and sanitation saves on average \$9 in costs averted and productivity gained;

Whereas, at any given time, ½ of the world's hospital beds are occupied by patients suffering from a water-borne disease;

Whereas 88 percent of all diseases are caused by unsafe drinking water, inadequate sanitation, and poor hygiene;

Whereas 1,100,000,000 (1 in 6) people lack access to an improved water supply;

Whereas 2,600,000,000 people in the world lack access to improved sanitation;

Whereas the global celebration of World Water Day is an initiative that grew out of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro;

Whereas the participants in the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, including the United States, agreed to the Plan of Implementation which included an agreement to work to reduce by ½ from the baseline year 1990 "the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water", "and the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation" by 2015; and

Whereas Congress passed and the President signed into law the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-121), which was intended to "elevate the role of water and sanitation policy in the development of U.S. foreign policy and improve the effectiveness of U.S. official programs": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of "World Water Day";

(2) urges an increased effort and the investment of greater resources by the Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development, and all relevant Federal departments and agencies toward providing sustainable and equitable access to safe drinking water and sanitation for the poor and the very poor; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate activities that promote awareness of the importance of access to clean water.

NATIONAL CEREBRAL PALSY AWARENESS DAY

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 484 and that the Senate now proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 484) designating March 25, 2008, as "National Cerebral Palsy Day."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 484) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 484

Whereas cerebral palsy is any number of neurological disorders that appear in infancy or early childhood and permanently affect

body movement and the muscle coordination necessary to maintain balance and posture;

Whereas cerebral palsy is caused by damage to 1 or more specific areas of the brain, usually occurring during fetal development, before, during, or shortly after birth, or during infancy;

Whereas the majority of children are born with cerebral palsy, although it may not be detected until months or years later;

Whereas 75 percent of individuals with cerebral palsy also have 1 or more additional developmental disabilities including epilepsy, intellectual disability, autism and visual impairments, or blindness;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently released information indicating an increase in the prevalence of cerebral palsy and that the rate is now about 1 in 278 children;

Whereas 800,000 Americans are affected by cerebral palsy;

Whereas, while there is no current cure for cerebral palsy, some treatment will often improve a child's capabilities and scientists and researchers are hopeful that breakthroughs will be forthcoming;

Whereas researchers across the Nation are conducting important research projects involving cerebral palsy; and

Whereas the Senate is an institution that can raise awareness in the general public and the medical community of cerebral palsy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 25, 2008, as "National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day";

(2) recognizes that all people of the United States should become more informed and aware of cerebral palsy; and

(3) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to Reaching for the Stars: A Foundation of Hope for Children with Cerebral Palsy.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2008

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until 10 a.m. tomorrow, April 1; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate proceed to a period of morning business until 12:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees; further, I ask that at 12:30 p.m., the Senate recess until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus luncheons.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. As a reminder, at approximately 2:30 p.m. tomorrow, the Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to H.R. 3221, the housing legislation.

RECESS UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that it stand in recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:39 p.m., recessed until Tuesday, April 1, 2008, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

ELISSE WALTER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 5, 2012, VICE ANNETTE L. NAZARETH, TERM EXPIRED.

LUIS AGUILAR, OF GEORGIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 5, 2010, VICE ROEL C. CAMPOS, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

CHRISTOPHER R. WALL, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, VICE CHRISTOPHER A. PADILLA.

LILY FU CLAFFEE, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, VICE JOHN J. SULLIVAN.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

TYLER D. DUVAL, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION FOR POLICY, VICE JEFFREY SHANE, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

KAMERAN L. ONLEY, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, VICE MARK A. LIMBAUGH.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

A. ELLEN TERPSTRA, OF NEW YORK, TO BE CHIEF AGRICULTURAL NEGOTIATOR, OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR, VICE RICHARD T. CROWDER.

INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

MIGUEL R. SAN JUAN, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS, VICE HECTOR E. MORALES, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PHILIP THOMAS REEKER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA.

ROBERT STEPHEN BEECROFT, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

CONSTANCE S. BARKER, OF ALABAMA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2011, VICE CARI M. DOMINGUEZ, RESIGNED.

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

ANNE RADER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2010. (REAPPOINTMENT)

KATHERINE O. MCCARY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2009, VICE MILTON APONTE, TERM EXPIRED.

LISA MATTHEISS, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2010. (REAPPOINTMENT)

JOHN H. HAGER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2009, VICE ROBERT DAVILA, TERM EXPIRED.

MARVIN G. FIFIELD, OF UTAH, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2011. (REAPPOINTMENT)

MARVIN G. FIFIELD, OF UTAH, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2008, VICE GRAHAM HILL, TERM EXPIRED.

KHISTEN COX, OF UTAH, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2009, VICE LINDA WETTERS, TERM EXPIRED.

CHAD COLLEY, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2010. (REAPPOINTMENT)

VICTORIA RAY CARLSON, OF IOWA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2010. (REAPPOINTMENT)

TONY J. WILLIAMS, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2009, VICE YOUNG WOO KANG, TERM EXPIRED.

JOHN R. VAUGHN, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2010. (REAPPOINTMENT)

RENEE L. TYREE, OF ARIZONA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 2009, VICE KATHLEEN MARTINEZ, TERM EXPIRED.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

MICHAEL E. LEITER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL COUNTERTERRORISM CENTER, OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, VICE JOHN S. REDD, RESIGNED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL WILLIAM J. BENDER
COLONEL BRYAN J. BENSON
COLONEL CHRISTOPHER C. BOGDAN
COLONEL DARRYL W. BURKE
COLONEL JOSEPH T. CALLAHAN III
COLONEL MICHAEL J. CAREY
COLONEL JOHN B. COOPER
COLONEL SAMUEL D. COX
COLONEL TERESA A. H. DJURIC
COLONEL CARLTON D. EVERHART II
COLONEL TERRENCE A. FEEHAN
COLONEL SAMUEL A. R. GRAVES
COLONEL RUSSELL J. HANDY
COLONEL SCOTT M. HANSON
COLONEL VERALINN JAMIESON
COLONEL JEFFREY G. LOFGREN
COLONEL EARL D. MATTHEWS
COLONEL KURT F. NEUBAUER
COLONEL ROBERT C. NOLAN II
COLONEL CRAIG S. OLSON
COLONEL JOHN R. RANCK, JR.
COLONEL DARRYL L. ROBERSON
COLONEL JEFFREY F. SMITH
COLONEL JOHN F. THOMPSON
COLONEL GREGORY J. TOUHILL
COLONEL THOMAS J. TRASK
COLONEL JOSEPH S. WARD, JR.
COLONEL SCOTT D. WEST
COLONEL TIMOTHY M. ZADALIS

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

BRIG. GEN. PATRICK J. O'REILLY

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPTAIN DOUGLASS T. BIESEL
CAPTAIN BARRY L. BRUNER
CAPTAIN JERRY K. BURROUGHS
CAPTAIN JAMES D. CLOYD
CAPTAIN THOMAS A. CROPPER
CAPTAIN DENNIS E. FITZPATRICK
CAPTAIN MICHAEL T. FRANKEN
CAPTAIN BRADLEY R. GEHRKE
CAPTAIN ROBERT P. GIRRIER
CAPTAIN PAUL A. GROSKLAGS
CAPTAIN SINCLAIR M. HARRIS
CAPTAIN MARGARET D. KLEIN
CAPTAIN TERRY B. KRAFT
CAPTAIN PATRICK J. LORGE
CAPTAIN BRAIN L. LOSBY
CAPTAIN MICHAEL E. MC LAUGHLIN
CAPTAIN WILLIAM F. MORAN
CAPTAIN SAMUEL PEREZ, JR.
CAPTAIN JAMES J. SHANNON
CAPTAIN CLIFFORD S. SHARPE
CAPTAIN TROY M. SHOEMAKER
CAPTAIN DIXON R. SMITH
CAPTAIN ROBERT L. THOMAS, JR.
CAPTAIN DOUGLAS J. VENLET

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DAVID F. BAUCOM
CAPT. VINCENT L. GRIFFITH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DAVID C. JOHNSON
CAPT. THOMAS J. MOORE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DONALD E. GADDIS
CAPT. MAUDE E. YOUNG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. MICHAEL H. ANDERSON
CAPT. WILLIAM R. KISER